

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) An excavating and loading machine having a body with a front end and a rear end, the body being carried on a steerable wheeled ground engaging structure, the machine including a loading arm assembly which is mounted on the body and extends forwardly of the body, and an excavating arm, and wherein the excavating arm is mounted on a superstructure which includes an operator's cab, the superstructure being rotatable about a generally upright axis relative to the body during the performance of excavating operations, and the excavating arm being mounted on the superstructure by a mounting which permits the arm to slew relative to the superstructure, about a generally upright slew axis as well as to permit the excavating arm to be raised and lowered about a generally horizontal axis wherein the superstructure is arranged to contact stops to limit the rotation of the superstructure to no more than 300° of rotation.

2. (Original) A machine according to claim 1 wherein the excavating arm is of the kind including at least two sections which are relatively moveable about a generally horizontal axis, with there being an excavating tool mounted at an outer end of the excavating arm.

3. (Previously presented) A machine according to claim 1 wherein the superstructure is lockable in a desired rotational position relative to the body, during use of the excavating arm.

4. (Previously presented) A machine according to claim 1 wherein the superstructure is mounted at or towards a rear of the body.

5. (Original) A machine according to claim 4 wherein the superstructure is mounted over a rear axle of the wheeled ground engaging structure and the rotatable superstructure carries mudguards for the rear wheels.

6. (Previously presented) A machine according to claim 1 wherein the cab includes within it, first controls for driving the machine over the ground and for operating the loading arm assembly, and second controls for operating the excavating arm and for rotating the superstructure, and a rotatable operator's seat to enable the driver to access and use the first or second controls.

7. (Previously presented) A machine according to claim 1 wherein the loading arm assembly is mounted in a generally central position between sides of the body, forwardly of the superstructure.

8. (Previously presented) A machine according to claim 1 wherein the loading arm assembly includes a pair of loader arms each extending along a side of the body.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Canceled)

11. (Previously presented) A machine according to claim 1 wherein the body of the machine houses an engine to power the machine, the engine being provided forwardly of the rotatable superstructure, generally centrally between the sides of the body.

12. (Previously presented) A machine according to claim 11 wherein the loading arm assembly is mounted in a generally central position between sides of the body, forwardly of the superstructure, and wherein the engine is mounted beneath an inner end of the loading arm.

13. (Previously presented) A machine according to claim 11 wherein the loading arm assembly includes a pair of loader arms each extending along a side of the body, and wherein the engine is provided between the arms.

14. (Previously presented) A machine according to claim 1 wherein the loading arm assembly is pivotal relative to the body about a generally horizontal mounting axis.

15. (Previously presented) A machine according to claim 1 wherein the loading arm assembly includes a plurality of telescopic sections, with a loading tool mounted at an outermost end of the loading arm.

16. (Previously presented) A machine according to claim 1 wherein the superstructure is rotatable relative to the body by a hydraulic or electric motor.

17. (canceled)

18. (canceled)

19. (New) An excavating and loading machine comprising:
- a body having a front end and a rear end, the body carried on a steerable wheeled ground engaging structure;
 - a loading arm assembly mounted on the body and extending forwardly of the body;
 - a superstructure including an operator's cab, the superstructure mounted to the body and rotatable about a generally upright first axis relative to the body;
 - an excavating arm mounted on a superstructure, the excavating arm mounted on the superstructure by a mounting which permits the arm to slew relative to the superstructure about a generally upright slew axis, the arm also arranged to permit the arm to be raised and lowered about a generally horizontal axis; and
 - the superstructure arranged to abut stops in order to limit the range of rotation of the superstructure relative to the body to less than 360° .
20. (New) The machine according to claim 19, wherein the superstructure is arranged to abut stops to limit the range of rotation of the superstructure relative to the body to no more than 300°